

PERU

SECTOR: Planning and Reform

PROJECT NAME: Improving Access to the Justice System (1061/OC-PE)

TOTAL COST: \$28.6 million

FINANCING:

IDB \$20.0 million

LOCAL \$ 8.6 million

DATE OF APPROVAL: November 25, 1997

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: The program will strengthen the administration of justice at the lower levels of the system. In particular, the program will seek to raise the quality of service and expand coverage for populations distant from urban centers.

The program has three components: (a) creation of approximately 83 basic justice modules (MBJs); (b) improved protection of women's and children's rights through the use of lay magistrates in the judicial districts of Loreto, San Martín, Ancash and Puno; and (c) development and implementation of an information, communication and dissemination plan to raise awareness of the program.

The first component will include six subcomponents: (a) construction of buildings to house the 83 MBJs; (b) purchase and installation of furnishings, fixtures and materials needed to operate the MBJs; (c) design and implementation of an information systems plan and specific computer programs for the MBJs; (d) purchase of computer hardware for the MBJs; (e) design and implementation of a training program for staff of the MBJs; and (f) provision of technical assistance necessary for the review and preparation of documents, blueprints, etc., and supervision of the works.

The second component includes three subcomponents: (a) training for lay magistrates in gender and children's issues; (b) assignment of preselected non-governmental organizations with demonstrated competence in the sector to identify specific activities to promote access by women to positions as magistrates; and (c) national policy recommendations.

The third component will include three subcomponents: (a) information activities to promote the program in affected communities; (b) an education program to inform communities of their rights and freedoms; and (c) seminars, workshops and meetings to obtain political and social support for the program.

CONSULTANTS: The program will fund consultants to provide services, including technical assistance, to conduct studies, design training programs, prepare materials, develop computer applications, and carry out media campaigns, as well as to supervise, provide expert advice and perform other activities in support of the program.

Consultants will design and implement training programs for MBJ staff (approximately 230 judges, 166 prosecutors, 166 attorneys, 40 medical examiners, 166 public defenders and 2,243 assistants) on the operation and organization of the MBJs, use of the module's computer systems, and the sociocultural characteristics of the population they serve.

Two consulting firms will be hired to promote the program in affected communities by planning and running radio ads, designing posters, producing

publicity materials, holding seminars, and carrying out other similar activities. Consultants will design and implement an education program to inform the affected communities of their rights and freedoms, using advertising materials, seminars and similar activities.

Local nongovernmental organizations will be hired to design a training program and teaching materials, and for purchasing materials and conducting workshops and seminars.

Consultants will provide technical assistance needed to review and prepare documents, blueprints, etc., for the 83 MBJs, as well as to supervise the works and install the computer equipment and applications.

The Bank's Country Office in Peru will hire: (a) an international expert on court layouts for a period of two weeks to review construction of the first five MBJs; and (b) an international consultant on computerization of judicial procedures to review the information systems plan developed by the Executive Secretariat's project management office.

A firm of independent auditors will audit the program's financial statements.

GOODS AND EQUIPMENT: The program will provide for the purchase of furnishings, fixtures, computer hardware and software, office supplies, cleaning materials, and other materials needed for operating the 83 MBJs.

CIVIL WORKS: The program will finance small construction works consisting of the construction or remodeling of buildings to house the 83 MBJs. The 83 MBJs will be built on quadrangular lots, preferably on flat terrain and with clear space around their entire periphery. Three models for the MBJs have been developed, depending on the size of the population they serve. Given the relatively simple, low-cost nature of the civil works to be constructed, it is felt that they may be of limited interest to international firms.

EXECUTING AGENCY: Comision Ejecutiva del Poder Judicial
Ministerio de Justicia
Av. Garcilazo de la Vega 1251, piso 4
Lima 1, Peru
Tel: (51-1) 417-7179, 402-839
Fax: (51-1) 458-076, 404-407